Approved For Release 2006/02/01 : CIA-RDP83-00415R000100030023-1

25X1 [redacted]

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25 July 1946

Country: Germany/Russian Zone

Subject: Research on Jet and Rocket Propellants Conducted by the Russians

25X1 [redacted]

1. In July 1945 a Russian Commission visited the B.M.W. works at Spandau and at Rendorf (east of Brandenburg), where the Germans had constructed TL's (jet fighters; TL is abbreviation for Turbinenluftfer) and V-2's during the war. The Russian Commission was headed by two Professors from Moscow, Professor Ioffe and Professor Fachmann, the latter of German origin. Both were experts in thermodynamics and included almost exclusively about thermal experiments and heat conduction and cooling apparatus used in rocket propulsion and V-2 weapons. The Professors were accompanied by Lt. Col. Isajeff, a scientist, and Major Berglesov, who also appeared to be an expert.

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2. [redacted] hydrazinnitrat (using graphite lining) was expensive and that the B.M.W. had gone over to the use of nitric acid and methylalcohol. The Russians knew only of this mixture, which was not auto-reactive and needed a flame. [redacted] experiments with nitric acid and raw xylidine [redacted] was auto-reactive. The Russians carried out successful experiments with this in August 1945.

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3. The Russians are now making further experiments with this mixture in the former Siebel works in Halle [redacted] and are at present experimenting on its use for rocket propelled aircraft with the aim of achieving a speed twice that of sound, i.e. 2200 km. per hour. The use of pure xylidine is not practical as the solidifying point is at minus 42 degrees Centigrade, and the Russians are experimenting on the admixture of triethylamin, with the result that the solidifying point is minus 48 degrees Centigrade. The relevant chemical formula is:

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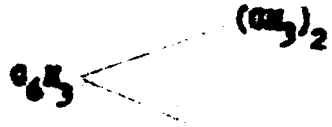
(Xylidine)



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4. The chief of the research works at Halle is Lt. Col. Vlasov and his principal assistant is Major Bogdanov. The principal German engineers there are Ing. Schall, former member of the Nazi Party, aircraft constructing engineer Dr. Fecher, and chemist Ramerich. Seven hundred workmen are employed at the works and more are being sought.

5. The factory at Stassfurt, which constructed jet propulsion planes for the Germans during the war in series, is being transformed into a research works, and the plant for serial construction has been removed to Russia. This includes machinery for making tin plates for the burning chambers ("Brennkammer"), large lathes for making compressors etc. Some of the staff have gone to Russia.

6. The chief engineer at Stassfurt is Lt. Col. Ing. Isaieff. There are also two Russian engineers, names unknown. The Chief German engineer is Dipl. Ing. Prestel, former R.L.M. "Kommandogerät" (stereoscopic fire director) maker, ex-member of the Nazi Party. Dr. Scheinast, (Werkstoffmann), (expert on materials), and Herr Haas, ex-member of the Nazi Party. There are upwards of one thousand workmen in the factory and more are being taken on.

7. The Russians have enquired of the German experts as to the possibility of using the xylidine/triethylamin mixture for the propulsion of rocket projectiles which required a pusher ("Schub") action or propelling force of 30 tons and 50 tons. They intimated to Dr. Schall that this was in connection with experiments conducted at Kleinheroda. [redacted] 25X1

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